

THE BRIDGE



*With open arms
for all!
All are welcome!*

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH • 4700 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD, BRANT BEACH, NJ 08008



St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers ONLINE GIVING

Parishioners who prefer to donate through our Online Giving Service, a secure and personalized way to give to the Parish, can visit our website at: <http://www.stfrancisparishlbi.org>

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

St. Francis of Assisi, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach, NJ

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, November 27	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Daniel Knode 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Joseph DiSpigno	Dn. 7:15-27; Lk. 21:34-36 Jer. 33:14-16; 1 Thes. 3:12-4:2; Lk. 21:25-28, 34-36	
Sunday, November 28	8:30 AM +Jo Vennewald 10:00 AM +James M. Kempfski +Nicholas Ballinger +Doug McFarlane 11:30 AM +John Weigl	Jer. 33:14-16; 1 Thes. 3:12-4:2; Lk. 21:25-28, 34-36	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Monday, November 29	9:00 AM +Kathleen Barndt +James Moretti	Sir. 44:1, 10-15; Mk. 10:17-21	6:30 PM Confirmation Encounter
Tuesday, November 30	9:00 AM +Joseph DiSpigno	Rom. 10:9-18; Mt. 4:18-22	9:30 AM St. Anthony Novena 1:30 PM Book Club, Sr. Lunch Room 5:30 PM 6 th Grade Parent/Child Session
Wednesday, December 1	9:00 AM +Joseph DiSpigno	Is. 25:6-10a; Mt. 15:29-37	10:30 AM Contemplative Living via Zoom 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 3:00 PM Scripture Study, Sr. Kate Room 5:30 PM 7 th Grade Parent/Child Session
Thursday, December 2	9:00 AM +Donna Knode +Mary & Frank Louis Aloia	Is. 26:1-6; Mt. 7:21, 24-27	
Friday, December 3	9:00 AM +Emma & Louis Carlucci +Harold & Eleanor Schwind	Is. 29:17-24; Mt. 9:27-31	
Saturday, December 4	9:00 AM +John Raftery +Susan Bulman 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Eugene Byrne +Mary DiFranco	Is. 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt. 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 Bar. 5:1-9; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk. 3:1-6	10:00 AM Communal Reconciliation
Sunday, December 5	8:30 AM +Frieda Braun +Louis tunnera 10:00 AM +Margaret & John Cahill +Margaret & John Sharkey +Ellen Theresa Sharkey 11:30 AM +Robert Fallor +Jimmy & Daniel Cancro	Bar. 5:1-9; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk. 3:1-6	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30 PM OFS Fraternity Meeting

Praying the Rosary

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Monday through Saturday, 8:20 AM



St. Anthony Novena

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Tuesdays after the 9:00 AM Daily Mass



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:00 PM



Mass Schedule - Until Further Notice

St. Francis of Assisi, Brant Beach

9:00 AM Daily Mass
Reconciliation: 3:30-4:30 PM
Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM

Live-Streaming Mass - Sundays 10:00 AM
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City - **Closed for the Season**
St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven - **Closed for the Season**
St. Clare, Loveladies - **Closed for the Season**

See Page 4 for additional
Christmas Season Masses & Services

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Franciscan Faith
Community of *Holy Name Province* in the Diocese of
Trenton. Find out more about Holy Name Province online
at: www.hnp.org



Fr. Francis J. Di Spigno, OFM,
Pastor

Budget Report, Part 2; Christmas 2021 Giving Fund

Last week we ended the Liturgical Year with our celebration of Christ the King. The Parish Finance Council and I shared with you the good news of last year's financial report. Knowing that we can't rest on our laurels, as we begin a new year on this First Sunday of Advent, I share the letter I sent to our parishioners and the friends of St. Francis Parish and Center, asking for help once again.

As you have seen in the bulletin, our Sunday collections continue to struggle to meet our budgeted needs. We are in a different situation than we were last year at this time but we are still in need of your help to meet our expenses in this fiscal year.

I would ask that you please read the letter if you have not already read it and consider a donation to St. Francis Parish. Any donation you can make to our parish is greatly appreciated. The Christmas 2021 Giving Fund form can also be found in this bulletin.

I thank you in advance for your continued support of our great parish.

FF

Dear Fellow Parishioner and Friends of St. Francis Parish and Center,

Greetings of Peace and All Good!

I do hope this letter finds you well and enjoying these fall days. Last year I wrote to you explaining the financial situation of the parish and center and your response was tremendous. When the last donation was tallied your generous spirit gave to our parish \$317,000. Wow! You surpassed every expectation I had ever imagined.

When I wrote to you last year, almost out of desperation, I felt like we were behind the eight ball and I didn't know where else to turn. Between your response, some cutbacks, and careful management by our directors, the parish ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$198,699.21. That was another bonus that I did not anticipate.

People are coming back to Mass but still not like it was before Covid. Barbara Truncellito, our new Director of Parish Development, has been working very hard to augment our weekly collections, however, the collections continue to miss the budgeted mark week after week. As of last Sunday, Nov. 7, our Sunday collections were \$170,789.33 behind our budget schedule. Last year's surplus is almost gone.

Our deficit at this time last year was \$261,873 so we are in a better position than last year but still not good enough to meet all our expenses. The parish finance council and I have been working on ways to build a financially sustainable future for our parish but at this point I do need to reach out to you once again to ask for your help.

Any contribution you can make to our *Christmas 2021 Giving Fund* is most appreciated. Enclosed you will find a contribution form outlining the different levels of support. If you wish to make a contribution in memory of someone who is deceased, or in honor of someone who is living, their names, along with yours, will be enrolled in our *Christmas 2021 Perfect Light Society*. The names of those enrolled will be listed in our bulletin and our online social media outlets and you and your intentions will be remembered at all of our Christmas Masses.

Please be assured of my prayers and gratitude, along with those of the other friars, Fr. Andrew, Fr. John, Fr. Kevin, Fr. Steve, and Fr. Scott, as well as Sr. Pat, and all of our parish and center staff.

I again thank you for your generous response last year and kindly ask you to consider contributing to this year's *Christmas 2021 Giving Fund*. Thank you for your support and your belief in the mission of St. Francis Parish and Center.

May God continue to bless you with peace and all that is good.

Sincerely,

Fr. Francis J. Di Spigno, OFM
Pastor

St. Francis of Assisi Parish & Center
 4700 Long Beach Boulevard
 Long Beach Island, NJ 08008



Christmas 2021 Giving Fund

Giving Levels	
Shepherd Level	\$25.00
Magi Level	\$35.00
Gold Level	\$50.00
Frankincense Level	\$100.00
Myrrh Level	\$500.00
Star of Wonder Level	\$1,000.00
Angel Level	\$5,000.00
Nativity Level	\$10,000.00
Manger Level	other



Dear Fr. Francis,

December 2021

Yes! I would like to contribute to the *Christmas 2021 Giving Fund* to support the ministries and services of St. Francis Parish and Center.

Shepherd Level
 Magi Level
 Gold Level
 Frankincense Level
 Myrrh Level
 Star of Wonder Level
 Angel Level
 Nativity Level
 Manger Level

Name: _____

How would you like the name of your loved one and your name to appear in our *Christmas 2021 Perfect Light Society*?

Address: _____

Email: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Donor: _____

★ If donating by check, please make the check payable to *St. Francis Parish*.

★ If you would like to donate by credit card, please visit our webpage www.stfrancisparishlbi.org and click the "Give" button.

★ If you donate with a check or credit card, please return this completed form so we can be sure to enroll you and your loved one in our "Christmas 2021 Perfect Light Society."

Your donation is tax deductible.

Upcoming Advent and Christmas Season Masses & Services *November 27th/28th Advent Begins*

- Saturday, **December 4th** at 10:00am Brant Beach Church. **Advent Communal Reconciliation Service with Individual Reconciliation.** [Please note there is no Advent Reconciliation Service on Monday, December 6th as advertised in church envelope brochure.]
- Tuesday, **December 7th Vigil** at 6:00pm and Wednesday, **December 8th Feast Day** at 9:00am for **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – Holy Day of Obligation. Both liturgies in Brant Beach Church. **Live-Streaming Mass**
- **December, 11th/12th** - Please bring the **Infant Jesus** from your home nativity for a blessing at all Masses this weekend.
- Friday, **December 17th** at 5:00pm – **An Advent Prayer Service of Light** Contemplative readings, Scripture, and Hymns. **Live-Streaming Mass**
- Friday, **December 24th Christmas Eve. Masses** in Brant Beach at 4:00pm and 6:00pm. [Please note there is no 6:30pm Mass in Brant Beach] Mass in Surf City at 4:00pm. **Live-Streaming at 6:00 PM Mass only**
- Saturday, **December 25th** at 10:00am **Christmas Day Mass** in Brant Beach. [There is no 5:00pm Mass on Saturday evening.] **Live-Streaming Mass**
- Sunday, **December 26th The Most Holy Family.** Masses at 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am in Brant Beach Church.
- Saturday, **January 1st, 2022, Solemnity of Mary Mother of God,** 9:00am Mass. Not a Holy Day this year. **Live-Streaming Mass**
- Sunday, **January 2nd, Epiphany of the Lord,** Regular Sunday Masses in Brant Beach Church, 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am
- Sunday **January 9th, Baptism of the Lord,** Regular Sunday Masses in Brant Beach Church, 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am

Did you notice?

The first lector does not process out with the Lectionary at the end of Mass. It is meant to stay in the sanctuary. The Word of God remains with the assembled.

Parish Information - (609) 494-8813

Emergency Information: Available on our answering machine (609) 494-8861 and on the following website:

schoolclosingsnj.com and facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi.

Parish Registration: The Parish Office is located on the second floor of St. Francis Community Center. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Baptism: Celebrated three times a month. Group Baptisms are the 2nd Saturday at 10:00 AM and the last Sunday at 12:45 PM. (609) 494-8813 ext. 154 or 155.

Faith Faith: Please call Judith Clayton at (609) 494-8813 ext. 153 for more information.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made ONE YEAR in advance.

Pastoral Visitations: Please notify the Parish Office if you or any of your loved ones are ill, homebound, in SOMC, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers.

Help Wanted - Altar Server Ministry

CALLING ALL BOYS AND GIRLS



Do you find mass boring? If you do, why not sign up to be an altar server. We need young people [after First Communion] to help with priests and/or carry the cross in the parade at the beginning and end of mass. The more you do during the mass, the more interesting mass becomes.

Have your parents contact Ms. Toby McCarthy via email toby121e@comcast.net or call/text (609) 923 5417.

Parents, don't worry...Ms. Toby will do the training, and your child will serve only ONE mass per month.



*The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.
Psalm 65:12-13*

The Art & Environment Team of St. Francis of Assisi Parish is most grateful to the many parishioners and friends who have so generously supported our Christmas Flower Fund over the years. Your gifts and prayers help our worship community reflect the wonder and joy we feel as we celebrate the glorious mystery of Christ's incarnation and birth during this Holy season of Christmas.

Our Christmas Flower Fund Drive begins this weekend and ends on **DECEMBER 17th**. You may memorialize or honor a family member or friend by making a donation toward the Christmas and Advent flowers, trees, decorations, and art & environment items used in the Brant Beach and Surf City churches. The names of those memorialized or honored will be published during the Christmas Season.

**DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS,
CANDLES, AND OTHER
ART & ENVIRONMENT ITEMS
MAY BE MADE IN ANY AMOUNT.**

**DONATIONS TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF OTHER
ITEMS TO BE MEMORIALIZED;**

**\$50.00 OR MORE – LARGE GREEN GARLAND & LARGE
POINSETTIA**

**\$100.00 OR MORE – CHRISTMAS TREES FOR THE
CHURCHES**

To make a donation, please use the Christmas flower envelopes that were mailed to your home. Additional envelopes are located at the doors of the church or you may use a plain envelope.

PLEASE CLEARLY PRINT your name, phone number, and the name of the person you wish memorialized or honored.
Your phone number is important in case we have questions about the spelling of names, etc .

The envelope can be placed in the collection basket, mailed, or dropped off at the center.

Questions? Please call the Worship Office (609) 494-8861 Extension 164. Thank you and God bless you.

Did You Know??

Xmas (also X-mas) is a common abbreviation of the word Christmas. ... The "X" comes from the Greek letter Chi, which is the first letter of the Greek word Christós (Greek: Χριστός), which became Christ in English.



Weekly Reflections...



Ms. JoAnne Reeder, Director of Worship

Our Advent journey begins! It is the starting point for our liturgical year. Our liturgical calendar begins this Sunday and continues until the Feast of Christ the King in 2022. The journey we are about to take celebrates “the soon” and the “not yet”. We have the knowledge that God’s promises have already been shown to us. We are thankful that we have already been saved, Jesus has been born, and we know the Kingdom of God awaits us.

But we also have the promise of the Second Coming when all of God’s people will know God’s salvation. The Gospel for our First Sunday describes the Second Coming. “there will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars...”

The Advent season cannot be separated from Christmas for it is during Advent that we “prepare the way of the Lord”, both the first coming and the Second Coming. And as Advent progresses, we learn more and more about the connection of the two as we take part in the rituals of the season.

One of the first rituals of Advent is the blessing of the Advent wreath and the lighting of the first candle marking our journey of preparation.

This year we are looking at Advent as a season of hope. There has been so much in our world that makes us weary, so much violence and hatred, poverty and illness. Jesus calls us to be a people of hope and to place our faith in him. He calls us to come to him with our burdens. “The word ‘hope’ I take for faith and indeed hope is nothing else but the constancy of faith.”

John Calvin

May we all embrace God’s gift of hope and carry it in our hearts as we make our Advent journey.

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness.” *Desmond Tutu*

Peace and all good.

JoAnne Reeder

Director of Worship

GOSPEL CHALLENGE:

“Be vigilant at all times and pray.”

Jesus tells us, “Beware your hearts do not become drowsy from the anxieties of daily life.”



When you are anxious, how do you open yourself to trust in God’s love and protection?

The Rosary Project



St. Francis Parish Women’s Cornerstone ladies are now collecting gently used rosaries to clean and re-package and send to hospital patients. Please place your donation of used rosaries in the collection basket in the lobby of the Brant Beach Church and we thank you!

Adult Faith Enrichment and RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Adult Faith Enrichment group invites you to **“Mary and the Scriptures”** **Tuesday, December 7th** at 6:45 PM in the St. Francis Church, Brant Beach. Fr. Steve will be the presenter.

Family Faith

Judith Clayton, Director of Family Faith (Ext. 153) jclayton@stfrancislbj.org

Angie Graiff, Elementary Coordinator (Ext. 150)

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

Marion Pierri, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)



Registration for 2021-22 year closes December 1.

Classes for all grades 1-8 are under way.

The schedule for our next parent and child sessions are as follows:

Grade 6 - November 30 These dates are 5:30 to 7:00 PM

Grade 7 - December 1

Grade 8 - November 29 - Confirmation Encounter 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Contact Marion Pierri at mpierri@stfrancislbj.org or (609) 494-8813 ext. 177 for more information on the tuition process.

New families to our programs should contact our Director,

Judith Clayton at jclayton@stfrancislbj.org or (609) 494-8813 ext. 153.

Appeals Box

Second Collection Today:

Parish Ministry - Family Faith Formation

This collection helps the Family Faith Formation Department in their mission to teach the faith and prepare our children for celebration of the sacraments. Thank you for helping the children of our parish live their faith.

Due to an early holiday publishing deadline, collection totals will be published in the next bulletin.



St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Online Giving!
stfrancisparishlbj.org

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

Goal: **\$100,000.00**

Gift Count: **415**

Donors: **303**

Raised: **\$63,135.00**

Collected: **\$61,032.84**

Pledge Balance: **\$ 1,597.16**



Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:



Spiritual Direction



We now have five certified Spiritual Directors offering *free* Spiritual Direction in our parish. For an appointment please call:

Maryann Barrek, ofs, (609) 661-4441,
Anne Bock, ofs, (609) 204-3835,
Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651,
Mary Lou Jacoby, (732) 995-6917
Pat Simmons, ofs, (609) 661-1361.

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

This program calls out to those who desire to live more contemplatively in the world, to grow in union with God and others, and to become more aware, intentional and free. God liberates us and heals us through the practice of contemplative prayer. We will continue meeting by *zoom* on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM for Centering Prayer and Lectio along with resuming our in-person sessions with presentations on the 2nd Saturday from 9:45 AM to noon. Email Kathy Egan for more information at: klegan.chaplain@gmail.com

Next scheduled sessions: **December 1, 10:30 AM**, via *zoom*
December 11, 9:30 AM, Sr. Lounge

Men's Spirituality Group

The Men's Spirituality Group meets in the Senior Lounge on Saturday morning from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Seating is limited. Please contact Deacon Bob or Father Steve to reserve your place.

Next scheduled meeting: **December 18, 10:00 AM, Sr.**

Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Book Club

Now through November 2021 we will meet in person at St. Francis Center in either Room 102 or the Knight Wing Conference Room, (Room 212) on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:30-2:30 PM. We will be reading "*Behold the Dreamers*" by Imbolo Mbue. Next scheduled meeting: **November 30, Sr. Lunch Room**

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Tuesday, **December 7, 6:30 PM**, St. Thomas Church, Surf City

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

Sunday, **December 5, 12:30 PM**, Brant Beach Church. *Fraternity Meeting.*

Scripture Study

Meets **Bi-monthly on Wednesdays**, at 3:00 PM to learn, discuss and reflect on passages of the Sacred Scriptures. Call Tom Troyano at (732) 261-4721 or email: tomtroyano@comcast.net for more information.

Next scheduled meeting: **December 1, Sr. Kate Meeting Room**

Survivors of Suicide

Meets the **2nd Thursday** of each month at 7:00 PM in the Knight Wing Conference Room (Room 212). Call Sr. Pat McNiff, ofs at (609) 494-8813 for more information.

Next scheduled meeting: **December 9, Room 212**

Employment Opportunity



*All full-time positions are offered benefits including Health Care, Paid time off, Paid Holidays, Life Insurance, 403B (retirement plan) with company match, and more.
* Part-time positions are offered Paid sick time, Paid Holidays (excluding seasonal/variable employees) and Employee Discounts

Children's Services - Toddler Room Supervisor

Seeking a person with a warm, nurturing, and friendly personality, be able to relate well with children and families. Bachelor's degree in early childhood education is required and experience working with Toddlers (13 months-2yrs of age) is preferred. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

Position: Year-round, Full-time

Pay: \$14.50 per hour *A recruitment bonus of \$1,000 may be available through state funding- More information will be provided in the interview*

Days: Monday-Friday

Children's Services - Teacher's Assistant (Toddler & Preschool)

Prefer a background in early childhood education and/or experience working with children. Must be 18 or older. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

Positions: Year-round, Full-time

Pay: \$13.00 per hour *A recruitment bonus of \$1,000 may be available through state funding- More information will be provided in the interview*

Days: Monday-Friday

Counseling Services

Positions: Full-time and Part-time Licensed Counselors

Full-time and Part-time Bilingual (Fluent English/Spanish) Licensed Counselors

Days: Monday through Friday (Some evening hours required)

Must complete 40-hour Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Training (provided free of charge by the agency). On-site clinical supervision is provided.

Must have Current Professional License: LSW, LAC, LPC or LCSW.

Recreation/Pool

Position: Year-round Part-time Lifeguard for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. MUST currently possess Red Cross pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification.

Days: Monday-Friday, and/or weekend – Daytime shift coverage needed.

Pay: \$12 per hour

Bilingual Caseworker

Position: Full Time Employment. **Applicants must be fluent in both English and Spanish.**

Applicants must have strong interpersonal skills, familiar with factors which influence child abuse and neglect, valid driver's license, and a minimum of High School Diploma, preferred Bachelor's Degree in Social Work (BSW) or related field. Case worker will be required to travel throughout Ocean County for home visits and provide transportation to clients.

Days: Monday-Friday

Senior Services

Position: Full time Caseworker (Outreach and Information Assistance Worker)

Days/Hours: 40 hours a week- Monday-Friday

Pay: \$13 per hour

Must have Phone/Communication, Computer & Organization skills
Must have valid driver license. Due to COVID-19 restrictions most work is being conducted from the office however normally the position requires home visits with clients.

**Background check and fingerprinting required for all positions.

Please send resumes to

abodine@stfrancislbj.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPECIAL EVENTS

4th Annual Beefsteak Dinner

December 3, 2021

Door open at 5:30 PM

Dinner served at 6:15 PM

Don't forget to bring a canned good!

All you can eat

Salad Filet Mignon Dessert

50/50 and Silent Auction

\$40

Wine pull. Over 100 bottles of wine

\$1,000 worth of gift cards

to local restaurants in silent auction

Last day to purchase tickets is **November 30**.

Get them while you can.

No take out.

No purchase at the door.

Senior Services

For information call ext. 108 or 109.



Information and Assistance, Telephone Reassurance Calls, Caregiver Assistance Options Counseling; Application Assistance for PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled), Meals on Wheels, SHIP Counseling (State Health Insurance Program), Energy Assistance, JACC (Jersey Assistance for Community Caregivers) and many more. Socialization, Recreation, and Exercise programs are available - please call for availability.

MEDICARE PART D OPEN ENROLLMENT:

St. Francis Senior Services staff are trained State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors for assistance in Medicare A, B, C or D information. Do you know the difference? Medicare A primarily pays for a stay in the hospital, or a skilled nursing facility, B is for doctor's services and outpatient services such as lab tests, C pays for the Medicare Advantage or managed care alternative to traditional Medicare and D of course is the prescription drug plan.

Soon Medicare beneficiaries will once again need to make a decision about their prescription drug coverage. Medicare Part D open enrollment period **runs through December 7th**. During this time, people with Medicare can sign up for a prescription drug plan or switch their current Medicare Part D plan in order to have the best coverage beginning January of 2020. And yes, it's best to check each year for changes. Open enrollment is also the perfect time to review your Medicare Advantage plan with a SHIP Counselor to be notified of any changes. What if you cannot afford a Medicare Part D plan? There is federal assistance available for people with Medicare who have limited income and resources. If you qualify, you can receive assistance with premiums, deductibles and prescription co-payments. For an appointment please call (609) 978-6221. We have 3 locations to serve you; LBI, Manahawkin and Berkeley.

Please be advised
we can no longer take donations
of durable medical equipment
or adult undergarments;
we do not have the space
to store them.

Thank you, Sr. Services

Jersey Cares - Senior Shoppers Program

If you are 60 years or older and in need of food shopping services, you should know that the Ocean County Office of Senior Services and St. Francis Senior Services has partnered with a reputable nonprofit, Jersey Cares, to provide this service.

You can be assured your safety is our top priority and that all volunteers are fully vetted including background checks.

If you are interested in participating in this program please call St. Francis Senior Services at (609) 978-6220 or St. Francis Senior Services Berkeley Office at (732) 244-9600.

Recreation & Aquatics

For info. please call ext. 105. Visit the **Fall/Winter Brochure** online at www.stfranciscenterlbi.org or pick up a Brochure at the Center lobby.

SESSION III REGISTRATION

**Monday, December 13
9:00 AM**

Classes begin January 3, 2022

Co-Ed Recreation Basketball League

(2nd - 8th grade; ages 7 - 14)

**Registration thru
December 3rd at 5:00 PM**



2nd - 8th Grade

Co-Ed League Evaluations

Tuesday, December 7th & Thursday, December 9th

- Grades 2 & 3, 4:30-5:15 PM
- Grades 4 & 5, 5:30-6:15 PM
- Grades 6, 7 & 8, 6:30-7:15 PM

Family Support Services

Human Concerns Food Pantry Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Walk-ins are welcome!

Everyone who enters the building will have their temperature taken & will be asked to wear a mask.

*The St. Francis Food Pantry has a variety of food options, personal hygiene products, and cleaning supplies available. Please ask about our Dairy-Free Milk alternatives, Gluten-Free or Vegan options, Baby Food, Formula, & Diapers. *Spanish-speaking staff is available to translate.*

*Join our text message alert system to receive alerts about the food pantry and annual projects. **TO ENROLL TEXT "PANTRY" TO 833-511-0760** **carrier text message rates may apply***

Donations needed for the Food Pantry:

Cereal, Canned Soup, Rice Side Packets, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Canned Vegetables such as Corn, Green Beans, Peas, Carrots, Detergent, Soap, Personal Products, Dish Detergent.

Donations for the Food Pantry can be left in the bins marked "donation" in the front of the Community Center. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry it can be made through our website: <http://stfranciscenterlbi.org/donate> via PayPal.

Family Support Services:

To learn more about our programs visit our website at <http://stfranciscenterlbi.org>

- *Parenting & Anger Management Groups*
- *Auto Ownership*
- *Parents As Teachers*
- *Maintaining the Integrity of Spanish Speaking Families*

St. Francis Travel

Home Town Travel

128 Bartlett Ave., Bartlett Commons,

Rt. 9 South, West Creek, NJ 08092

Call Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100

Email: hometowntravel@comcast.net



Sightseeing Trips & Cruises



Join Father Steve in Iceland

February 1-6, 2022

(Wait listed)

Imperial Cities with Oberammergau Passion Play

September 19-29, 2022

Rate of \$6,099 double occupancy includes: 16 meals, round trip air from Newark, sightseeing, Passion play and much more.

For more information or reservations, contact

Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100

or visit St. Francis Parish Website at: <https://www.stfrancispshlbi.org/travel>

Community Bulletin Board

Soroptimist Clothes Closet

Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

The Soroptimist Clothes Closet is now open the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4:00-6:00 PM and every Saturday from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. Free clothing to any women having trouble making ends meet and in need of clothing.

With a voucher you can choose from: work attire, jackets & coats, everyday clothing, shoes and accessories!

Vouchers are available at St. Francis Food Pantry, Churches, & Stafford Community Center.

Call Madelyn at (609) 276-3308 for more information.

No appointment necessary.

Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

Services are currently being offered via telephone or various online platforms. We have openings for new clients at this time. Please call (609) 494-1554.

Did You Know??

Did you know that in 2022, **St. Francis Community Center** will celebrate its 50th Anniversary? Yes, the Center has been open and serving the surrounding communities since 1972. Within the Community Center there are many departments providing a wide variety of services including, year-round Childcare Services and a Summer Camp, Education and Career Support Services, Counseling Center, Family Support Services and Food Pantry, Senior Services and Outreach, Volunteer opportunities and a Recreation Department which operates 3 heated swimming pools, one which is open year-round to the public. Please stop in for our current Brochure or visit us online @ stfranciscenterlbi.org, to see a much more in depth description of all we have to offer and stay-tuned for some special events to help us celebrate this Golden Anniversary!

Children's Services

For information call ext. 114.



St. Francis Community Center's Preschool and Childcare are fully accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families.org. We are also a Grow NJ Kids 4 Star Program. www.grownkids.gov.

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